60 Alpine Drive Rochester, New York 14618 October 18, 2000

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U.S. Food and Drug Administration Dockets Management Branch 5600 Fishers Lane,Room 1061 Rockville,MD 20785

Dear Sirs:

I write to urge you to grant Farm Sanctuary's petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals - docket # 98P - 0151/CP1.

Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE. It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - such an agonizing way to treat any form of life.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. People in the industry have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling, Taking away the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

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Sencerely, Antoinette Bushlack

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Antoinette M. Bushlack 60 Alpine Dr. Rochester NY 14618-3714



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